

Streamlining of Export Procedures

1578. SHRI NAREANDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a recent EXIM Bank study has pointed out to the widespread and continuing existence of procedural complexities in trade transactions which have undoubtedly acted as disincentives for exports;

(b) if so, what efforts are being made to streamline the export procedures so as to give fillip to export trade;

(c) what are the projections of exports during the financial year 2000-2001; and

(d) whether export earnings during the first quarter of 2000-2001 compares favourably with the our projections?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) had conducted a study dealing with the procedural complexities and the ensuing transaction costs in exports from India.

Subsequently, Finance Minister announced the setting up of a High Powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Revenue Secretary for suggesting steps for reducing such transaction costs. This Committee submitted its report in February, 2000 identifying measures aimed at reducing and rationalizing the procedural complexities and multiplicity of rules and regulations, to mitigate delays and to facilitate exports. Action is now being taken on the recommendations made by this Committee. The Exim Policy amendments announced on 31.3.2000 made an attempt to address some of the issues, specially those relating to streamlining of procedures.

(c) The target for growth of export has been fixed at 18% for the financial year 2000-2001.

(d) Yes, Sir. The export growth of 27.7% in Dollar terms during

April-June, 2000-2001, as per the latest provisional data available from DGCI&S, Calcutta, compares favourably with our projections.

Industrial Development Centres in J and K

1579. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial development centres set up Jammu and Kashmir during each of the last Three years;

(b) the details of funds invested in these centres;

(c) whether the roads and tanks have been constructed by them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) Two Growth Centres have been sanctioned in Jammu and Kashmir at Samba (District Jammu) in January 1992 and at Lassipora (District Pulwama) in December, 1997, under the Growth Centre Scheme. The location of the Lassipora growth Centres has been restructured in June, 2000. The Growth Centre at Samba has become functioning Growth Centre as allotment of industrial plots has commenced there.

(b) The Central Government provides Rs. 10 crore per growth centre under the scheme. The balance funds are to be raised by the State Government or its agencies who is also responsible to implement the project. The Central Government has released Rs. 850 lakh for the Samba Growth Centre and Rs. 50 lakh for the Lassipora Growth Centre.